

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims repeats unamended those claims as finally rejected in the final Office Action.

1-4. (Canceled)

5.(Currently Amended) A portable ~~storage~~ flash memory device comprising:
 a pocket-sized body;
 an intrinsic computer readable storage medium within said body, said storage medium not normally removable from said body;
 a connector for removably coupling to a host device such that an operating system of the host device may logically recognize the portable storage device as additional local memory;
 a manual actuator; and
 an indicator for indicating, following actuation of said actuator, that said portable ~~storage~~ flash memory device may be safely removed from a host device to which it is coupled.

6.(Canceled)

7.(Currently Amended) A portable storage device as set forth in claim 5, wherein said indicator comprises ~~at least one of a visual indicator, an aural indicator and a tactile indicator for~~ indicating as in claim 5.

8.(Currently Amended) The portable storage device of claim 5 further comprising a micro controller coupled between said actuator and said connector that sends a request for the operating system of the host device to execute an interrupt command.

9-12.(Canceled)

13.(Original) The portable storage device of claim 5 wherein said indicator uniquely indicates at least three states when said portable storage device is coupled to a host device, said three states comprising:

 a normal inactive state whereby no transfer of computer instructions is ongoing between

said portable storage device and said host device;

a normal active state whereby a transfer of computer instructions is ongoing between said portable storage device and said host device; and

a ready-to-be-removed state whereby, following actuation of said actuator, the portable storage device may be removed from the host device to which it is coupled without loss or corruption of data.

14.(Canceled)

15.(Currently Amended) A system for transferring a file embodied on a computer storage medium comprising a host device and a portable ~~storage~~flash memory device,

said host device comprising a host storage medium, a host operating system of computer instructions that logically recognizes the portable ~~storage~~flash memory device as additional local memory, and a receptacle for receiving a connector,

said portable ~~storage~~flash memory device comprising:

a pocket-sized body;

a connector for mating with said receptacle;

an intrinsic computer readable storage medium within said body that is not normally removable from said body;

a manual actuator for initiating computer instructions to remove said portable ~~storage~~flash memory device from said host device; and

an indicator for indicating to a user at least that said portable ~~storage~~flash memory device may be removed from said host ~~computer device~~ following actuation of said actuator without loss of data and without corruption of data.

16-17.(Canceled)

18.(Currently Amended) A system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said indicator comprises ~~at least one of a visual indicator, an aural indicator and a tactile indicator for indicating as in~~ claim 15.

19-20.(Canceled)

21.(New) The portable flash memory of claim 5, further comprising a power source independent of the host device.

22.(New) The portable flash memory device of claim 5, wherein said indicator comprises a vibrating indicator for indicating as in claim 5.

23.(New) The portable flash memory device of claim 23, wherein the indicator comprises a visual indicator integrated into the actuator for indicating as in claim 5.

24.(New) The portable flash memory device of claim 5, wherein said indicator comprises a visual indicator that changes between blinking and steady for indicating as in claim 5

25.(New) The portable flash memory device of claim 5, wherein the body is elliptical in shape and the connector comprises a USB connector rigidly extending from said body.

26.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein said host device comprises a digital camera.

27.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein said host device comprises a mobile phone.

28.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein said indicator comprises an aural indicator for indicating as in claim 15.

29.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein said indicator comprises a tactile vibrating indicator for indicating as in claim 15.

30.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein said indicator comprises a visual indicator that is integrated into the actuator for indicating as in claim 15.

31.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein said indicator comprises a visual indicator that changes between blinking and steady for indicating as in claim 15

32.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein said indicator uniquely indicates each of four states: normal-active; normal-inactive; error; and ready-for removal.

33.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein said portable memory device further comprises a power source independent of said host device.

34.(New) The system of claim 15, wherein the body is elliptical in shape and the connector comprises a USB connector rigidly extending from said body.